

Abstract

The invention proposes to increase the diameter of the top sections (2) of the tethers on tension leg platforms (TLP) (4) to make top sections (1) positively buoyant. This buoyancy can be designed to compensate for the weight of the lower sections (2) to make the total buoyancy of the tether closer to neutral. The selection process for each section is driven by requirements for buoyancy, stiffness and external pressure resistance.

10018364.000002

-8-

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
28 December 2000 (28.12.2000)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 00/78601 A1

(51) International Patent Classification: B63B 21/50

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(21) International Application Number: PCT/NO00/00215

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(22) International Filing Date: 22 June 2000 (22.06.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
19993116 23 June 1999 (23.06.1999) NO

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AKER
ENGINEERING AS [NO/NO]; Tjuvholmen, N-0250
Oslo (NO).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): PERRET, Graham
(GB/GB); The Mount Farmhouse, The Mount, Rusper,
Sussex RH11 0LF (GB). HANNUS, Henrik [NO/NO];
Bauveien 7, N-1363 Høvik (NO). ECKHOFF, Kjetil
[NO/NO]; Rugdefaret 27F, N-1341 Slepden (NO).

(74) Agent: BRYN & AARFLOT AS; P.O. Box 449 Sentrum,
N-0104 Oslo (NO).

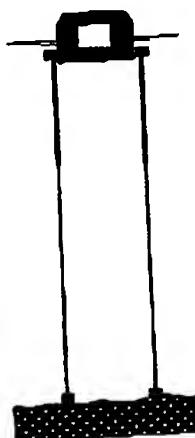
Published:

- *With international search report.*
- *Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments.*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DEEP WATER TLP TETHER SYSTEM

(57) Abstract: The invention proposes to increase the diameter of the top sections (2) of the tethers on tension leg platforms (TLP) (4) to make top sections (1) positively buoyant. This buoyancy can be designed to compensate for the weight of the lower sections (2) to make the total buoyancy of the tether closer to neutral. The selection process for each section is driven by requirements for buoyancy, stiffness and external pressure resistance.



TLP with tethers

WO 00/78601 A1

TELETYPE 1.000000